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The Tech News Volume 1, Issue 23, March 9 1910

The Students of Worcester Polytechnic Institute

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TECH NEWS



VOL. I.—NO. 23

WORCESTER, MASS., WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9, 1910

PRICE THREE CENTS

Tech Won

A Great Basketball Game from Trinity, 22 to 17.

Tech won one of the greatest basketball games ever played in Worcester when it defeated Trinity 22 to 17 last Friday night in Mechanics Hall. A fair crowd saw the game, but it cannot be said that the support accorded the team was satisfactory by any means. As a whole, the crowd was made up of the men you see at every Tech event, and there were very few of the "occasionals" in evidence. For once, the stay-at-homes got a bad stinging and on this occasion they had no ground for consolation in missing the game, which can hardly ever be duplicated.

Two five-minute overtime periods were needed to decide the victor, and in these ten minutes there was whirlwind basketball every second. How the fellows ever stood the pace after the vigorous play during the regular sessions is a wonder, and it's a "cinch" if they were engaged in chopping wood or some other labor of this nature they could never have put half the energy in it and stayed the count. It was a wonderful exhibition of college spirit and fight, and a sight you could never witness in a professional contest.

The game was even all throughout. Tech carried off the honors in the first half 8 to 6, and Trinity duplicated in the second half, the regular playing time expiring with the score a tie, 14 to 14. Trinity had it on Tech on defense play, our boys being a little too anxious to cluster around the Trinity basket, and a number of times during the play Trinity passed the ball down to Tech's basket without a man in sight to cover them. They didn't have very good luck in their shots, however, so it was safe to play this style of game as long as the visitors weren't piling up points. It is safe to say that had they started scoring to any extent, they would have been covered close enough.

Tech played a magnificent floor game and had it all over their opponents when it came to passing the ball around. Aggressiveness was employed throughout, and the ball was worked down the floor at all costs, and the whole team followed it, all ready to take a fling at the basket. There is no question but that this method was the cause of the victory.

The Trinity team was as husky an aggregation of basketball players as ever appeared in Worcester, and had Tech played a game whereby every man stuck to his opponent, they would have had a hard job winning out, for the Connecticut boys would have worn them out by sheer weight in no time. It was an excellently planned style

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MECHANICAL SOCIETY MEETING.

The March meeting of the Mechanical Engineering Society was held last week in the Engineering Building. Mr. H. E. Waring, president of the society, presided and introduced Mr. John A. McGregor, president of the Union Twist Drill Company, Athol, Mass., who gave a very interesting and instructive address upon the heat treatment of high carbon and alloy steels, such as are used in cutting tools. Modern methods of manufacturing have brought about somewhat similar conditions as those which obtain in naval construction, where there is an apparent rivalry between the makers of armor plate and of those interested in making projectiles. If the machine tool designer gets out a machine which is too powerful for the cutting tools used, the manufacturer of steel tries to excel him by getting up the indestructible cutting tool. Mr. McGregor described what his company had accomplished, and the methods employed to get results. He showed that from the start all stock was not only especially treated, but that the selection of the best stock for a given purpose had been scientifically gone into. Every endeavor had also been made to produce a uniformity of product. Besides the students, there was present a considerable number of business men and expert steel workers.

GLEE CLUB CONCERT.

The Glee Club gave its first concert last week to an interested and appreciative audience. The quartette, Pease, Sleeper, Riordan and Wholean, gave a number of excellent selections, and the club sang the three prize songs and another Tech song composed by Mr. Sleeper. The concert has placed the club upon a sound financial basis, so that its existence on Tech Hill is assured.

CHEMICAL CLUB MEETINGS.

The meetings of the Chemical Club for the remainder of the year will come on the following dates:

March 14; March 28, public lecture by W. H. Walker of M. I. T. on "Catalysis and its Application to the Chemistry of Daily Life"; April 18; May 2, public lecture.

Dr. Walker is at the head of the Research Laboratory of Applied Chemistry at M. I. T. His lecture on the 28th promises to be interesting, not only to chemists, but to any with a taste for general science.

CALENDAR.

WEDNESDAY, March 9.

7.00. Y. M. C. A. meeting.

FRIDAY, March 11.

4.30. Colloquium meeting.

8.00. A. I. E. E. meeting.

MONDAY, March 14.

8.00. Chemical Society meeting.

Outdoor track practice every day.

Tech Banquet.

Tech Spirit Rampant at the Bay State House.

The tables of the Bay State House groaned to the sumptuous feast set before 200 undergraduates, alumni and faculty of W. P. I., while the walls echoed the wit of the jolly good Tech men at the best banquet of the year. Faculty and students were one. Again men on the Hill breathed forth their latent good fellowship to make Tech a "brighter, bigger and better" place than even before.

At 8 o'clock the seven-course dinner was attacked and "sent to the pantry" before 10. Throughout the feasting the Tech Orchestra furnished music to the tuneful ones, occasionally interrupted by the splash of humor of some "jolly good fellow." The cream of the evening followed when Professor French started the ball a-rolling to a series of clever speeches that vied with one another in their loyalty to Tech.

He said that Tech resembled a large manufacturing industry whose product is best only through the co-operation of those interested. The head of the industry, President Engler, should be the one whose words are most heeded, and he should be the first to speak on all questions involved.

President Engler started his toast by dragging himself from the bottomless pit to which he had just been consigned by the students, and bringing with him a song which was a satire on cruelty to animals entitled, "Old Dog Tray." He sang several verses and the voices of the two hundred present joined in the chorus. The song was a distinct feature and certainly broke the ice.

Vice-president C. W. Morden responded to the toastmaster's call to the senior class. His words were in a light vein, scoring Professor French for bluffing.

A new assistant professor, Dr. Fred. Bonnet, Jr., spoke as "the chemist who started in right as a civil engineer, but who became misdirected." Dr. Bonnet spoke of the close communication which should be developed with the freshmen and the professors, so that the former might be enabled to make the best choice possible of the courses offered on the Hill.

The recently organized Glee Club was called on to lead the singing of "Polytech, my Polytech," a song to the tune of "Maryland, my Maryland," but new to the Hill. It went off very well and will be added to those now sung. The words were written by Mrs. E. G. Dwinell of Fitchburg, who was inspired by the fact that her two sons were Tech alumni.

Henry R. Power, president of the Junior Class, spoke rather satirically of the shortcomings of his class. He mentioned the inauguration by the class of

(Continued on page 2.)

MECHANICS' SMOKER.

The senior class in Mechanical Engineering got together on Tuesday evening for an informal smoker in the shop management room. The invited guests were Prof. W. W. Bird, Prof. C. M. Allen, Mr. H. P. Fairfield, Mr. E. H. Fish and Mr. John Jeraberg. After listening to short addresses from the guests, a lunch was served; the remainder of the evening was spent in reminiscences by both students and guests. Mr. H. E. Waring acted as informal toastmaster, and handed out a few "good ones."



On Friday evening, March 11th, at eight o'clock there will be held a joint meeting of the W. P. I. Branch of the A. I. E. E. and the Wireless Association in the lecture hall of the Electrical Engineering Building. Mr. John Stone Stone of Boston will give an address on "Some Phases of Wireless Telegraphy." Mr. Stone is an authority in this line, and what he has to say should prove not only interesting but valuable.

DR. JENNINGS ENTERTAINS.

Dr. Jennings entertained the Cosmopolitan Club at his residence Thursday night. The principal speaker, Mr. Baker '93, president of the alumni, spoke upon the people of India. His talk was the basis for the interesting and vividly real reminiscences and discussions that followed by those present who had visited India. The latter part of the evening was devoted to singing German student airs and a number of Gaelic songs.

GAS ENGINE TESTS.

As a portion of the post-graduate work in gas engine testing, the following men accompanied Professor D. L. Gallup to Southbridge, Mass., to assist him in testing the engines in use at the American Optical Company: J. C. Harvey, W. W. Armour, F. W. Gilman, P. A. Hamilton, C. W. Morden, H. A. Sheldon, P. E. Twiss, D. B. Wheeler and W. I. Randall. The power plant consists of two 500 horse-power Diesel oil engines direct connected to electric generators. Each unit is made up of six cylinders arranged in groups of three cylinders on each side of the generator. The fuel used is the ordinary commercial fuel oil and the test was made to determine the fuel consumption, the indicated horse-power, the brake horse-power, electrical output to bus-bars and auxiliaries, as well as to determine the regulation.

TECH NEWS

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All material should be in before Monday noon at the latest in order to have it appear in the week's issue.

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The jest and jollity at Monday night's banquet was a credit to the social side of W. P. I. men. We shall long remember the occasion as one where pedagogue and pupil breathed alike the spirit and the enthusiasm of the Hill. May these bonds of good fellowship be strengthened from day to day; may they intensify in the hearts of all a love for work, and be a constant reminder of that homely proverb, "All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy, but all play and no work makes Johnnie shirk."

We desire to call the attention of the student body to the letter, duplicated in another column, sent to the Institute by the U. of P. Aero Club.

As an engineering college with annexed construction shops this school has far superior equipment for the building of model and man-carrying aeroplanes than many colleges in which the science of flight is already taught. The News will welcome expression of opinions on the formation of an Aero Club, and will endeavor, through its columns, to assist in the furtherance of the aims of such an organization.

A communication on basketball, arguing against the game and signed by a junior, is to be found in another column. We earnestly advise our readers to consider this article. Now is the time for arranging the schedule for next season, and if the student body expresses its opinion very soon as against the game, the assistant manager of the team will be spared the labor and expense of arranging a false schedule. What is more, our word in such matters would retain its present high place in the estimation of other institutions.

It may be that the student body wants to retain basketball among Tech sports. The little interest in the mass meeting on Friday last and poor cheering at the game may be due to other causes than lack of interest in the game itself. However the case may be, whether opinions are for or against, all will be published by the News.

TECH BANQUET.

(Continued from page 1.)

the wearing of the freshman cap, speaking of its superiority to that of the Clark College freshmen. Credit was given to the class for having organized the Orchestra, Glee Club and Tech News, dwelling upon the last named organization.

Charles Baker '93, president of the Alumni Association, told of the great interest of the alumni in all parts of the globe for Tech activities, particularly athletics. He mentioned the poor facilities of the Institute, but looked favorably to the future. "All men should unite in one body and support everything possible and not be a crowd of kickers," he concluded.

Professor Haynes, on behalf of the Song Committee, awarded the prizes for the song contest, making some very interesting and valuable remarks on college songs, telling of the points requisite for expressing the true spirit of the college. "The results of the recent contest are not entirely satisfactory. Although the songs are a fair lot, we look for the day when some genius will endow us with a song—a gift as valuable as a building itself."

M. G. Halligan, 1912's President and its most versatile athlete, spoke for "the best class on the Hill," proving his statement mathematically, and figuratively sketching the success of the sophomores, ending with an appeal for athletics and Tech spirit.

The speaker for 1913, Mr. Price, was introduced as the representative of the luckiest class on the Hill. His talk embraced the activities of the freshman class in the past, present and future, winding up with the declaration that 1913 promised to be a hotbed of Tech spirit.

Professor Hancock drew comparisons of Western and Eastern students. "The former are speedier, the latter more thorough," he said, and he followed by giving his estimation of what constituted true college spirit.

The Glee Club then gave its last selection, followed by a rousing P. L. led by Cummings.

The Committee on the Banquet consisted of MacGregory '10, chairman, and Downe '10, Jacobs '10, Kennedy '10, Power '11, Halligan '12, Price '13.

MASS MEETING.

The second mass meeting before the basketball game was held last Friday night. There were twice as many there as at the first mass meeting (some say there were twenty present on this occasion). The band was scheduled to show up, but lost itself en route, or something happened to it. A short cheering practice was held and Assistant Manager Hartwell of the track team presented the cup won by the relay team in the Bates race to President Waring of the Athletic Association. Both made appropriate remarks, and Manager Worthen of the basketball team also spoke.

TECH WON A GREAT BASKETBALL GAME FROM TRINITY.

(Continued from page 1.)

of play, and whoever worked it out knows basketball, despite what some of the spectators thought about the manner in which the Trinity men were left uncovered at times.

Kloss was the hero of the contest, but every man on the team played a grand and plucky game. Captain Fitzpatrick was evidently a marked man, for he was always covered from start to finish. The only chances he had to shoot were on long baskets, and he didn't have a bit of luck with him, missing tallying by a hair on a number of occasions.

Carl Atherton played the best game, at least on a home floor, in his career, and wound up his basketball days in a blaze of glory.

Jesse James had as tough an opponent as one could wish for, but he handled him without gloves, and incidentally played as gamely and grittily as was possible.

As one of the co-ed rooters in the gallery said, "Hallenbeck was 'simply magnificent.'" His floor work was exceptionally good, and he played the game for all it was worth every minute.

The first overtime period started with a rush. Trinity got the tap, and on a well-managed team play caged a basket right off the reel. It looked bad for Tech, but Kloss came to the rescue with a spectacular basket, and Fitz caged a free try to compensate for the one Trinity got. The period ended with the players going at top speed and the spectators on their feet doing a pantomime act. The services of the cheer leader were no longer wanted; nobody could speak above a whisper.

The second overtime period started and was even speedier than the first. The cage was a kaleidoscope of dashing, sprawling figures, gray and crimson, blue and gold—you didn't know which was which or where it was, but everybody saw the ball; and maybe there wasn't something doing when Kloss, with a man hanging on to his left arm, and another chap in the air, all but pouncing on him, tossed the pigskin with his right up against the backboard—a bound, it hesitated on the ring (awful silence) and then dropped through the netting (the storm breaks).

Another minute of action, and then Kloss duplicated his stunt with another difficult basket. Trinity worked its hardest to score and, although the ball reached the vicinity of Tech's basket several times, it never quite connected. Time was called just as Fitz scored on a foul, and everybody was happy.

1912 NOTES.

The sophomore class recently elected F. B. White manager of the class baseball team and W. T. Potter manager of the class basketball team.

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WORCESTER THEATRE.

The rural delight, "Way Down East," is the attraction at the Worcester all this week, with Thursday and Saturday matinees.

Next week Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday with Wednesday matinee, "Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm" will be seen with the big production and cast that have been in Boston for the past three months.

On Friday and Saturday with Saturday matinee, Charles Frohman will present Augustus Thomas' new play, "The Harvest Moon," with George Nash and the New York company and production.

FRANKLIN SQUARE THEATRE.

Week of March 14th, Frederic Thompson's big scenic and dramatic success, "Via Wireless," will be seen at the Franklin Square Theatre. This is the same production that played at the Liberty Theatre, New York city, for six months, and is without a doubt the largest scenic production that has been attempted on the road in years. Mr. Thompson, who built and designed the huge New York Hippodrome; the greatest amusement park in the world, Luna Park, Coney Island, and has produced such emphatic successes as "Brewster's Millions," "Polly of the Circus," and "A Fool There Was," has made "Via Wireless" his masterpiece, and the master hand of his work is plainly shown in this production.

(COMMUNICATION.)

BASKETBALL AT W. P. I.

At the present time many branches of athletics are supported by the student body on "Tech Hill." Football, baseball, track—may we omit basketball?—have the moral and financial support of every man who claims to be connected with the Institute and can find it within his means to pay the athletic dues exacted every year. Notwithstanding, perhaps, the poor showing of some of the teams against those of similar institutions, a Tech man makes it possible to find four dollars somewhere to keep things running and perpetuate the name of Worcester Polytechnic Institute among those schools supporting athletics. Considering, then, the sacrifice thus made, the high costs for tuition, books, board, etc., from which it must be remembered—college men are exempt, are we not justified in taking a critical view of every or any branch of athletics? Must not money so spent on athletics be properly invested?

There seems to be a growing dissatisfaction among colleges and technical schools with basketball. The fact that the game brings little revenue; that severe rules are required to prevent the game from being rough-and-tumble, and that players have difficulty to follow these; that the game creates little interest among the student bodies; that "breaks" between institutions have followed the pugilistic encounters of the players; that the ordinary student cannot play the game,—all these are brought up as an indictment against the game. Maine, whom we played last Friday, is considering the abandonment of the game.

(Continued on page 4.)

AREO CLUB.

The following is an extract from a letter sent to the Institute by the U. of P. Aero Club:

Feb. 26, 1910.

To the Secretary of the College, Worcester Polytechnic Institute.

Dear Sir: It has always been the province of the American College to lead in the promotion of a new science and to carry on research along progressive lines. A new science has seemingly suddenly sprung up from the earth and now it promises to revolutionize transportation. Its effect will probably be felt more vitally than any modern invention in bringing the farthest corners of the earth in closer touch.

Aerial navigation has been dreamed of for centuries. Now the dream is realized. It seems but fitting that the trained American college man should take up the work and try to perfect it.

Imbued with this feeling, many of America's leading universities have already organized aero clubs, and many more are rapidly following suit.

In order to bring about closer relations between the aero clubs of these various universities, to stimulate organization in new places and unite with the big international movement by affiliating an Inter-collegiate Aeronautic Association with the Aero Club of America, we, the Aero Club of the University of Pennsylvania, acting in unison with the aero clubs of Columbia and Cornell, extend to your college a most cordial invitation to join us in an Inter-collegiate Aeronautic Convention, to be held here in Philadelphia, Friday and Saturday, April 1st and 2d. The purpose of this convention will be to effect the organization of North American Inter-collegiate Aeronautic Association, and to arrange its affiliation with the Aero Club of America. Further, we hope to arrange a series of inter-collegiate meets and model and gliding contests.

If you have an Aero Club in your college, will you kindly refer this letter to it? We should like an answer from all college aero clubs whether they can be represented or not. If you have no Aero Club, will you be so kind as to turn this invitation over to the person or committee who would be most likely to be interested in it. It may be that your college would be glad to fall in with the movement.

In either case, will you cause this letter to be published in your college paper?

Hoping to hear from you at an early date, that you can be with us, we remain,

Yours sincerely,

CARL H. CARSON,

Chairman of Executive Committee,
GEO. ATWELL RICHARDSON,
Secretary.

Y. M. C. A. NOTES.

At the last meeting, Wednesday evening, Rev. E. M. Saunier of the Lincoln Square Baptist Church spoke. There will be another special speaker this week.

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SECOND TEAM WINS.

As an appetizer for the big game, the second team defeated the wonderful Boys' Club team in a decisive manner. It was the first time the Worcester team has been beaten this season, and they only succumbed after a battle, second only to the college game in point of play and interest.

The second team showed a complete reversal of form from last week, and played a faultless game. They won out in the first half, when they clearly outclassed their opponents, who had a little the better of a finely played second period.

Treadwell was the star of the game, and many pick him as a classy 'Varsity man next year. Roy Atherton and Friars also played first-class basketball, and Chet Corbin, although very rough at times, didn't make enough fouls to give the other team a victory, and incidentally caged a couple of nice shots.

Red Cummings was a conspicuous spectator, not because of the fact that he had an eau de cologne shave, and his poppy garden nicely trimmed, but there's a reason. When he informed her that he worked in the same laboratory with Chet Corbin, she was very much worried and made Red solemnly promise he would never fight with the redoubtable bantam of the chemists. Kind of hard luck for Chet, and Red, the only other 108-pounder in the bunch.

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BASKETBALL AT W. P. I.

(Continued from page 3.)

Brown, which was one of our opponents early in the season, has decided to give it up. But this is considering colleges in general. Let us apply our reasoning to Tech itself.

In the first place, the season thus far has been poor. Of eleven games played, five were lost by large scores, five were won, and the other nearly tied. Of two of those which were won, one was nearly tied and the other was won from a high school. Games were played at the very opening of the season with "big teams" and some of them were during examination week in January. Possibly this is due to poor management, but the "big teams" will not give Tech a date at any other time, and the wretched results must follow.

A second reason is a financial one. Holy Cross abandoned the game because of lack of revenue from the games played. Holy Cross, with a large source of revenue from baseball which could be turned toward basketball, with a proper gymnasium for training, with no athletic dues of four dollars exacted from students—Holy Cross, we say, abandoned the game! How much less are we able to support the game which brings such little revenue? And how much more significant is this fact when we consider that the Tech-Holy Cross game was our chief source of revenue, the game for which we waited a whole season to see played?

Is the game profitable? Yes, if a large proportion of the students derive benefit from it and if this proportion have many friends interested in their success. But is this the case? Five men play the game, and four substitutes are ready, if wanted. Thus at most, nine men are interested in the first team. In baseball, at least nine are benefited; in football, eleven; in track, any number. "But the second team?" says the basketball man. Yes, a second team exists, but if success shows interest—as it ought—our second team is sadly lacking in the latter.

The normal student does not play the game, and but few are benefited.

What shall be substituted for the game? Some want hockey, but this is dependent on weather conditions, even though much may be said for the ready facilities for playing. Others want tennis, or track extended.

That track is a possibility was shown last year in the mass meeting, when it was suggested that track be abolished. More of the normal students can get some benefit: it permits of varied abilities and more all-around development. It is a clean sport and ought to be extended. Tech, being admitted to the N. E. I. A. A., must come up to her former brilliant record. The Armory meets, from year to year, are also incentives for action along track lines.

Franklin Square Theatre

THIS WEEK—MATINEES DAILY

The Red Moon

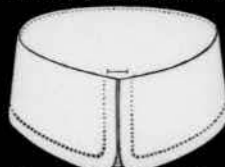
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Tennis, too, is a clean sport. A man need not be a robust one in order to follow the game. Yet it is a healthy, vigorous form of exercise. Interest has been shown in the past few years by an entirely independent organization which obtained contributions and presented cups to be contested for. Better courts are needed so that a spring season may be practicable. The poor location at present has caused much inconvenience. In this line, then, the basketball money could be expended.

To sum up: basketball is proving to be a failure at Tech, financially and otherwise; it is out of place and can be superseded by better sports.

—'11.

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OPEN EVENINGS

A challenge to a contest in aeronautics, issued by the Aero Club of Columbia, has been accepted by Harvard, Amherst and Pennsylvania, and arrangements are being made for an aviation meet in June.